a very serious problem, and it has been baffling us for the last 50 or 100 years.

Mr. C. Achyuta Menon.—It began in 1818.

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—If the Member will come to me, I will satisfy him.

President.—A Member getting privately the information he wants and bringing that matter to the notice of this House are two different things. He may know all the facts. Still he puts questions, his intention being to make the House also understand how the matter stands. So this is to make a matter public. There is this aspect also to be considered.

Tiles for the P. W. D.

160. Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—Will the Government be pleased to state.—

(1) whether the tiles approved by the P. W. Department alone are used for Sirkar work;

(2) the nature of the test so made and the authority entrusted with the task;

(3) the names of the first 3 companies so approved and the name of the company from whom the largest quantity was purchased;

(4) whether the Sivakami Tile Works, Manali, is owned by the State salt contractor, Mr. Chettiar;

(5) whether the Sivakami Tile Works supplied goods other than their own for Sirkar works, whether it was detected, and how it was then disposed of;

(6) whether the said Sivakami Tile Works still enjoy the patronage of the D. P. W. despite all these;

(7) whether the test is annually done and patronage renewed;

(8) whether it was done this year also?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—(1) Yes.

(2) (a) The nature of the clay used for the tile, the grinding, pressing and leaking and the breaking strength of the tile when soaked in water were tested.

(b) The Technical Branch of the P. W. D. Head Office under the direct supervision of the Chief Engineer.

(3) (a) Messrs. Sivakami Tile Works, and the Shoranur Tile Works for the whole State, St. Joseph's Tile Works, Oilur, for the Trichur Taluk and the Meenakshi Tile Works, Chittur, for the Chittur Taluk.

(b) The largest supply was made by Messrs. Sivakami Tile Works.

(4) No.

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(5) No such instance has been brought to notice.
(6) The question does not arise in the light of the reply to number (5).
(7) Not as a rule.
(8) No.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—May I know whether the Shoranur Tile Works have been supplying any tiles to the department?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—Yes.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—An approximate percentage compared with that of the Sivakami Tile Factory?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—It is impossible to give the percentage. The criterion in the selection of tiles is cost. If a tile factory is situated in the Talappalli Taluk near Chelakkara or any other place, and we have another in Cheruvirutti, we go in for Cheruvirutti tiles, because the transport charges in the latter case are less.

President.—The question will really depend upon the places where these title factories are situated.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—The St. Joseph's Tile Works have supplied tiles to Trichur and the Sivakami Tile Works also have done so. May I know whether there is any difference between the prices in these two factories?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—There is some.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—May I know which is cheaper?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—I think the St. Joseph's.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—Then, how was it that the Government has been purchasing tiles from the Sivakami Tile Factory, when the St. Joseph's were cheaper?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—Our procedure is to ask the contractors. It is they who select the tiles. They may choose the St. Joseph's or the Sivakami tiles. The Government is not concerned in these matters.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—May I know whether the proprietor of the Sivakami Tiles is one Mr. Arunachalam Chettiar, and whether he is the State salt contractor?

President.—The State salt contractor and the proprietor of the Sivakami Tile Works are two different persons.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—Was he at any time the salt contractor of the State?

President.—Yes.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—May I know whether there was any complaint from the department or from outside?

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President.—Any such thing brought to your notice?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—Not known.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—May I know whether the tiles are being tested by the department?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—The test was not done last year.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—May I know in how many years the test is conducted?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—So far as the departmental interests are concerned, we test the tiles, and as long as we get good quality, we do not care to test. It is in the interests of the tile manufacturers to come to us and say: "We have sufficient stock of good qualities which will stand your tests". Then, we test them.

Improvement of Paravachal.

161. മിസ്റ്റർ സി. എൻ. ഇട്ടിരവി നമ്പൂതിരി.—താഴെപറയുന്ന ചോദ്യങ്ങൾക്ക് ഗവർമ്മേണ്ട് ദയവായി മറുപടി പറയുമോ—

(എ) ചാഴൂർ അലപ്പാട്ട് വില്ലേജിന്റെ അതൃത്തിയിലുള്ള പെരുമ്പോക്ക പറവചാൽ കൃഷിരക്ഷക്കുവേണ്ടി താഴ്ത്തിച്ചുതരേണമെന്ന് ടി വില്ലേജനിവാസികൾ അടുത്ത ഒരു നാലുകൊല്ലത്തിനുള്ളിൽ എത്ര ഹർജികൾ അയച്ചിട്ടുണ്ട്;

(ബി) ഉണ്ടെങ്കിൽ ആ ഹർജിയെപ്പറ്റി ഗവർമ്മേണ്ട് വല്ല അന്വേഷണവും നടത്തീട്ടുണ്ടൊ;

(സി) അതിന്ന് തീരുമാനം എന്താണെന്ന് ദയവുചെയ്ത് പറയാമൊ?

മിസ്റ്റർ വി. കെ. അരവിന്ദാക്ഷ മേനോൻ.—എ) ഒരു ഹർജി കിട്ടീട്ടുണ്ട്.

(ബി) ഉണ്ട്.

(സി) ഫ്രഥമ-ലേക്കുള്ള ബഡ്ഡറ്റ് തയ്യാറാക്കുന്നസമയം ഈ സംഗതി ആലോചനയിൽ കൊണ്ടുവരണമെന്നാകുന്നു.

The Ernakulam ferry jetty.

162. മിസ്റ്റർ പി. കുഞ്ഞുമുഹമ്മദ്.—ഹാർബർപണിനിമിത്തം എറണാകുളം—കൊച്ചികടത്തു ബോട്ടുകടവു ഇപ്പോൾ ഇരിക്കുന്നസ്ഥലത്തുനിന്ന് മാറേണ്ടിവരുമൊ?

മാറാത്തപക്ഷം ഗതാഗതക്കാരുടെ സൌകര്യത്തിനുവേണ്ടി കൊച്ചിയിലും എറണാകുളത്തും ഓരോവിശ്രമസ്ഥലങ്ങൾ പണിയിക്കുവാൻ ഗവർമ്മേണ്ടിന്ന് ദയവുണ്ടാകുമോ?

മിസ്റ്റർ വി. കെ. അരവിന്ദാക്ഷമേനോൻ.—ഈ സംഗതിയെപ്പറ്റി ഇപ്പോൾ ഇവിടെ യാതൊരു അറിവുമില്ല.

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